

Substitute Bill No. 207

February Session, 2014



## AN ACT REQUIRING HOME IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS AND SALESMEN TO OBTAIN AND DISPLAY IDENTIFICATION BADGES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- Section 1. Section 20-420 of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (e) as follows (*Effective January 1, 2015*):
- (NEW) (e) Each contractor or salesman who is issued a certificate of registration pursuant to section 20-422, as amended by this act, shall wear the personalized identification badge that is issued pursuant to subsection (b) of said section, in a conspicuous place, whenever the contractor or salesman is performing or engaging, or attempting to engage, in the business of making or selling home improvements.
- 9 Sec. 2. Section 20-422 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2015*):
  - (a) Upon receipt of a completed application and fee, the commissioner shall: (1) Issue and deliver to the applicant a certificate to engage in the business for which the application was made; or (2) refuse to issue the certificate. The commissioner may suspend, revoke or refuse to issue or renew any certificate issued under this chapter or may place a registrant on probation or issue a letter of reprimand or may require the posting of a bond meeting the specifications of section 20-426a as a condition for the issuance, renewal or reinstatement of a

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certificate of registration for any of the reasons stated in section 20-426, as amended by this act. No application for the reinstatement of a certificate which has been revoked shall be accepted by the commissioner within one year after the date of such revocation.

- (b) Upon the issuance of a certificate pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the commissioner shall issue, or cause to be issued, a personalized identification badge to the contractor or salesman. The identification badge shall include a color photograph of the contractor's or salesman's face, the contractor's or salesman's name, the contractor's or salesman's registration number, the name of the contractor's or salesman's business and the Internet web site address for the state of Connecticut eLicensing Internet web site, or any subsequent corresponding electronic licensing Internet web site, and shall be designed in a manner that such names, number and Internet web site address will be plainly visible when the badge is worn by the contractor or salesman. The identification badge shall be made in such a manner and of such material that any attempt to alter the badge will result in it being immediately, permanently and noticeably destroyed. The photograph on the identification badge shall be taken not more than four weeks prior to the date upon which such badge is issued. A contractor or salesman shall apply for and obtain a new identification badge at least once every six years. The commissioner may charge the contractor or salesman a reasonable fee, not to exceed thirty dollars, to cover the costs of the identification badge issued pursuant to this subsection.
- Sec. 3. Section 20-426 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2015*):
- (a) The commissioner may revoke, suspend or refuse to issue or renew any certificate of registration as a home improvement contractor or salesperson or place a registrant on probation or issue a letter of reprimand for: (1) Conduct of a character likely to mislead, deceive or defraud the public or the commissioner; (2) engaging in any untruthful or misleading advertising; (3) failing to reimburse the guaranty fund

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52 established pursuant to section 20-432 for any moneys paid to an 53 owner pursuant to subsection (o) of section 20-432; (4) unfair or 54 deceptive business practices; or (5) violation of any of the provisions of 55 the general statutes relating to home improvements or any regulation 56 adopted pursuant to any of such provisions. The commissioner may 57 refuse to issue or renew any certificate of registration as a home 58 improvement contractor or salesperson of any person subject to the 59 registration requirements of chapter 969.

60 (b) A contractor or salesman who has been issued an identification
61 badge pursuant to subsection (b) of section 20-422, as amended by this
62 act, and whose registration has been revoked or suspended or has not
63 been renewed shall, not later than three business days after such
64 revocation, suspension or nonrenewal, surrender such identification
65 badge to the commissioner.

[(b)] (c) The commissioner shall not revoke or suspend any certificate of registration or require the posting of a bond except upon notice and hearing in accordance with chapter 54.

| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: |                 |        |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------|--|
| Section 1                                                                     | January 1, 2015 | 20-420 |  |
| Sec. 2                                                                        | January 1, 2015 | 20-422 |  |
| Sec. 3                                                                        | January 1, 2015 | 20-426 |  |

## Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

Sections 1 and 2(b) were rewritten for accuracy and consistency with the general statutes.

GL Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO